



Application No.: 10/784,213
Examiner: Christopher Schatz
Art Unit: 1733

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a tubular, resilient spring body for a pillow, cushion, or mattress, the method comprising the steps of:

providing slits in a foam layer; cutting a strip out of the slitted foam layer; bending two opposite ends of the strip towards each other; and fixing both opposite ends in order to form a tubular, resilient pillow, cushion, or mattress spring body;

wherein the foam layer is made of a viscoelastic foam, and wherein at least a part of the cells present in the foam are broken open by compressing the foam such that a gas pressure within the cells rises to burst the cells.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the slits are provided in the axial direction of the tubular, resilient body.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the opposite ends of the strip are bent such that the tubular body is formed with a biconical or almost biconical shape on the outside.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the strip is stretched at least in its longitudinal direction when being bent, whereby the slits are drawn open in order to form cavities.

6. (New) A method for manufacturing a tubular, resilient body, the method comprising the steps of:

providing slits in a foam layer; cutting a plurality of strips ~~strip~~ out of the slitted foam layer; for each of the strips, bending two opposite ends of the strip towards each other; and fixing both opposite ends in order to form a tubular, resilient body;

wherein the foam layer is made of a viscoelastic foam, and wherein at least a part of the cells present in the foam are broken open by compressing the foam such that a gas pressure within the cells rises to burst the cells;

whereby a plurality of tubular, resilient bodies are formed.

7. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein the slits are provided in the axial direction of the tubular, resilient body.

8. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein the opposite ends of the strip are bent such that the tubular body is formed with a biconical or almost biconical shape on the outside.

9. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein the strip is stretched at least in its longitudinal direction when being bent, whereby the slits are drawn open in order to form cavities.

10. (New) A method for manufacturing a tubular, resilient spring body for a pillow, cushion, or mattress, the method comprising the steps of:

providing slits in a foam layer; cutting a plurality of strips ~~strip~~ out of the slitted foam layer; for each of the strips, bending two opposite ends of the strip towards each other; and fixing both opposite ends in order to form a tubular, resilient pillow, cushion, or mattress spring body;

wherein the foam layer is made of a viscoelastic foam, and wherein at least a part of the cells present in the foam are broken open by compressing the foam such that a gas pressure within the cells rises to burst the cells;

whereby a plurality of tubular, resilient bodies are formed.

11. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the slits are provided in the axial direction of the tubular, resilient body.

12. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the opposite ends of the strip are bent such that the tubular body is formed with a biconical or almost biconical shape on the outside.

13. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the strip is stretched at least in its longitudinal direction when being bent, whereby the slits are drawn open in order to form cavities.